



THE LAMESA NATIONAL BANK

LAMESA, TEXAS September 19, 2005

ELWOOD FREEMAN PRESIDENT

> FDIC San Francisco Regional Office Director John F. Carter 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300 San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Director Carter:

I am writing to express opposition to the application by Wal-Martito obtain an Industrial Loan Company charter. We own a community bank in a small town of some 10,000 and have witnessed what Wal-Mart can do to our local businesses. Since their location in this city, we have seen some eight to ten businesses close, because they just could not compete. These were long-time businesses that have been vital to this community, and we are concerned that should Wal-Mart not be able to maintain their bottom line and leave our community we will not see the rebuilding of these small businesses that have been such a part of this community.

What has happened to these small businesses could very well happen to our two locally owned commercial banks. We are much concerned that, although Wal-Mart has promised to stay our of retail and commercial banking that this promise will not be kept.

We seriously urge you to reject this application because it has the possibility of doing to our community banking situation what it has done to our business community.

Very truly yours,

Elwood Freeman